NEW ENGLAND FARMER

DEVOTED TO AGRICULTURE AND ALL ITS VARIOUS KINDRED ARTS AND SCIENCES.

Honor waits, o'er all the earth, The art that calls her harvests forth.—BRYANT.

VOL. I. SATURDAY, AUGUST 18, 1849. NO. 18.

S. W. COLE, EDITOR. QUINCY HALL, BOSTON. J. NOURSE, PROPRIETOR.

JAUFFRET AND BOMMER MANURE.

In 1835, Jauffret, of France, after making numerous experiments in preparing manure, and having perfected his plan, took out a patent, which expired in 1840. The object of this system was to produce a rapid decomposition, whereby coarse vegetable substances might be readily prepared as manure.

Jauffret's plan was to form a tank or reservoir for water, saturated with decomposing animal or vegetable substances, which may be found on almost every farm. This may be composed in part of drainings from the barn-yard, soap-suds, sink water, urine, &c.

A ley is then prepared in a vessel, or small tank or pit. In preparing this ley, it is better to take the drainings from a former heap, or for the first time take liquor from the reservoir, or soap-suds, sink water, and other liquids rich with vegetable or animal matter.

To decompose one thousand pounds of dry, vegetable substances, or twice that weight of green materials, add to the liquor in the vessel, or small tank,

200	pounds	of night soil, or twice that quantity of horse, cattle, sheep or swine manure,
50	"	" wood soot,
50	"	" unleached ashes,
200	"	" plaster,
30	"	" quick lime,
1	"	" common salt,
1	"	" saltpetre.

These ingredients may be varied; and it would be an improvement to increase the quantity of quick lime and ashes, and reduce that of plaster. If these materials cannot be conveniently obtained, others may be substituted. For the soot, use a larger quantity of the burnt earth of coal-pits. For plaster, use a larger quantity of street manure, slime from ditches, or other similar manure. For ashes, use five or six pounds of potash or soda. Stir the liquor on adding the plaster, and throw in a little at a time, lest it cake.

The materials for manure are thrown into the reservoir and soaked in the liquor, to prepare them for decomposition. Then they are thrown into a heap, by the side of the reservoir; a place for which should be prepared by laying at the bottom clay, or compact earth, so that the drainings from the heap, and the ley poured on the pile, may run off into the vat, and not be absorbed by the earth, as it would be on a porous soil.

The heap may be made six or seven feet high, six, eight, or ten feet wide, in order to hold the heat, and of any convenient length. In making the heap, after making layers of about a foot, turn on some of the ley, that it may be applied to every part of the materials. When the heap is completed, turn the muddy sediment of the ley on to the heap. Then cover the top of the heap with straw, old planks, or branches of herbage. In forming the heap, it should be trodden down to make it close, and it should be beaten all round for the same purpose.

The fermentation usually commences in two days, and on the third day, the top of the heap is to be opened about six inches deep, the sediment turned over, and another good drenching of the ley applied, and the heap covered up. About the seventh day, make many holes in the heap, about three feet deep, and give another good drenching with the ley. About the ninth day, apply another drenching, in new and deeper holes.

After fourteen or fifteen days from the making of the heap, the manure will be fit to spread. The fermentation is checked by an excessive drenching, or by opening the heap. The drainings should be caught and used over and over again, and what remains is used for future heaps. Warm weather is most suitable for making this manure. This is the substance of Jauffret's mode. For sake of brevity, we have omitted many things in the specification, that are not essential.

Hon. H. L. Ellsworth, formerly commissioner of patents, stated in the Albany Cultivator, November 3, 1843, that in May, 1843, Mr. Bommer presented an application for a patent for making manure, which was duly examined, and rejected for want of novelty, and the application was withdrawn; that in June Messrs. Baer & Gouliart obtained a patent for an alleged improvement on the method of making manure, patented in France by Jauffret, which said method has not been patented in the United States,

and is, therefore, free to the public. These gentlemen sold the patent for the Eastern States to Mr. Bommer, and the mode of making the manure is called the *Bommer method.*

We have private information that after the rejection of Bommer's application, during the presence of Mr. Ellsworth, Baer & Gouliart made their application, and got a patent, during his absence. One fact should be noted here — that this was hurried through the patent office much more rapidly than patents generally are, probably to consummate the business before the commissioner's return; and the whole transaction, when we have shown the claim of the patentees, shows something wrong at the patent office — that there was a want of fidelity or intelligence, by which farmers have been most egregiously duped.

Baer & Gouliart, in their specification, pretend to describe Jauffret's patent mode, in order to show what are their improvements upon it; and in their specification, they declare it to be a full and exact description; yet they have cautiously omitted the important fact that Jauffret, after steeping the materials in the vat, piled them into a heap, and poured the ley on them, as we have already shown. Then they set up the following claim: —

"What we claim as our improvement on Jauffret's method of forming manure by the rapid fermentation of vegetable fibres, is, first, the forming of the said vegetable matter into piles or heaps, without its first being immersed in the prepared ley, and the subsequently saturating the same by pouring on the ley in the manner set forth."

Now we ask every man of common sense if they have any claim. They claim what Jauffret claimed in his specification. All that is new in their mode is the omission of first steeping the materials in a vat; and if this gives any claim to a patent, then any patentee who claims any thing that is not essential, in his patent, may have his right taken from him by another, who claims his invention, excepting a part which is not important. But having stated the facts, the case is so clear, in our opinion, that further comment is unnecessary.

Farmers, as well as other professions, should keep themselves properly informed of important matters pertaining to their interests. We are astonished that they should be so much imposed upon, as to pay many thousand dollars for an old mode of making manure, to which they have as good a right, without paying five dollars each, or eighty dollars to a town, as any man has to pile up a heap of weeds and turn soap-suds on them. This is our opinion, and though in the legal line, we charge nothing extra.

In closing this article, we would remark that this is not the only case in which farmers have been deceived by patents being granted for what was already public property; one case of which we showed some years ago in the Yankee Farmer. A great many patents are granted that have no legal validity; but the patent serves as a passport of deception to speculators, who are making money by selling rights to the incautious. We may again refer to the granting of patents on fictitious claims.

We have been thus lengthy and particular, as we have had several requests to publish what information we had on this subject. We wish for the reader to bear in mind that we say nothing, here, for or against the utility of making manure in this way.

THE CROPS IN NEW ENGLAND.

Hay. — In Massachusetts, the crop is very good, and it has been secured in most excellent condition. There is much old hay on hand. From what we have heard from Connecticut and Rhode Island, it is nearly the same there. In some parts of Maine, the hay crop is good; in others, it is rather light, but better than was expected before haying. Much old hay on hand in some sections. In the northern part of New Hampshire and Vermont, the drought continued longer than in other sections; and as the grass crop was later farther north, the crop will be light. As many are trying to save all the fodder they can, and economizing in its use, and the crop is well secured and will spend well, it is thought that there will be a pretty good supply.

Corn is generally very promising. The hot weather has brought it forward rapidly, and if the latter part of the season should be favorable, the crops will be good. On very dry soil, where the drought has been severe, the crop will be rather light.

Potatoes were generally planted early in the southern and middle sections of New England, and nearly got their growth before the late rains, and they will be very light. Those planted late are very promising. In the northern section, they were planted later, but in some parts of that region, the drought has been so long and severe, that the crops will be light. More potatoes were planted in this state than usual; in Maine, not so many, owing to light crops there last year. The crop will probably be lighter than it has been for many years.

Small Grains. — Wheat varies from very good in some sections to very light in others. Rye generally good. Oats and barley vary much in different places. In some parts, the crop is very light by reason of the drought.

Fruit. — There has been about half a usual crop of strawberries. Not more than a third of a crop of cherries. Gooseberries and currants have been pretty good. There will not be a quarter of a usual crop of pears, perhaps not more than a sixth or tenth part so many as usual. Plums are very scarce. No peaches on low lands, nor on flat lands of moderate elevation. On high lands, in some sections, the crop will be tolerably good. The crop of apples will be very light indeed, probably not more than one fourth or sixth as many as last year, confirming our views, as to large crops in even years, and light ones in odd years, generally.

Soap-Suds. — Don't waste your soap-suds, but apply it to your rose-bushes and grape-vines. There is no application in the world equal to it. Indeed, vines generally are beautified by it.

UNRIPE AND DISEASED FRUIT.

At this season of the year, when the summer complaint in children is very common, and the dysentery and cholera morbus, and fevers of various type, are prevalent, and that dreadful scourge, the cholera, is spreading over the country with fearful effects, there should be great caution in the use of food and luxuries, as improper indulgences are causes in some cases, and predisposing causes in all cases, of these diseases.

Unripe or diseased fruit is hard to digest, and a most prolific cause of diseases. Yet good, well-ripened fruit is one of the most healthful, if not the most wholesome of all articles of food, and as a luxury, in moderation, it is conducive to health. But children are so fond of fruit that they will eat it when perfectly green; and our markets abound with prematurely ripened fruit, which was picked green, that it might ripen while on its way to a distant market, and much of it is in a state of decay before it is in the hands of the consumer. Nearly all the peaches that have been in this market (Aug. 12) are from trees affected with the *yellows*, a disease more fatal to the peach than the cholera to the human race.

Sickly trees being unable to perfect their crop, the fruit ripens prematurely, in some cases a month earlier than that of healthy trees; and this fruit has a livid, purplish color throughout, showing clearly that it is from diseased trees. We leave it with the reader to judge whether fruit not coming to full maturity and perfection, and discolored with such positive marks of defection, is fit to be eaten. If meat, exposed for sale in the market becomes tainted, the "market police" orders it sent off immediately; but fruit, with evident marks of taint, and which is more unwholesome than tainted meat, is allowed a place, and is consumed by the incautious to their destruction.

Why do not health officers do their duty as faithful and intelligent guardians of the public, and not show so much partiality to vegetable over animal productions? Reader, as you value life and health, avoid diseased and unripe fruit. Parents, carefully guard your children against its use, as they are often inclined to use it even to excess. A little care and judicious management may save a fit of sickness and a doctor's bill, or save the lives of those whom you value as your existence.

WHEAT CROP AND CULTURE — BEST VARIETIES.

Under this head we find the following article in the Ohio Cultivator, and we would call the attention of farmers in New England to the important fact that the rust and grain worm injures wheat in Ohio, as well as in this section, and to another fact that is worthy of consideration, which is, that the average wheat crop in Ohio does not exceed twelve bushels to the acre. Then why, with these disadvantages of blight and depredations, and lean crops, generally, should farmers in Ohio raise wheat for farmers in New England, or even a supply for our large markets?

"The recent failure of our wheat crop by rust and insects, has afforded opportunity to observing farmers for gaining much valuable knowledge in reference to wheat growing; and we trust this knowledge will be made generally available for the purpose of introducing such improvements as will tend to lessen the chances for similar failures hereafter.

"In almost every neighborhood, some wheat fields measurably escaped both insects and rust. Now, we want to urge upon our readers the importance of their carefully noting all the particulars in reference to such fields — especially the nature and condition of the soil, its elevation and exposure, the mode of tillage, time and manner of sowing, and last, but not least, the variety or kind of wheat. These and any other facts that may tend to throw light on this subject, if carefully and extensively observed and published, cannot fail to prove of immense public advantage. We hope, therefore, that quite a number of our intelligent and patriotic correspondents will promptly favor us with communications, giving the results of their observations on these points. Remember it is the simple *facts* we desire, rather than *opinions*, or *theories* based thereon.

"We have already received several communications of this kind, which we intend to use along with many others expected in our next.

"In reference to varieties of wheat, we would state, that in nearly all parts of the country, it appears that the Mediterranean has done the best. Perhaps, however, other early kinds, as the Alabama, Virginia, &c., have done as well under similar circumstances; and these we believe are considered of better quality for market than the Mediterranean. We ask further information on this point. We also suggest to farmers, that it is not in the least probable, that we shall often experience so disastrous a wheat season as the present one, and in districts where the crop has seldom before been injured by the rust, it may not be advisable to abandon the well-tried and hitherto most profitable kinds.

"Colonel Medary, of this city, it is generally known, cultivates several early varieties of wheat. One of these, called by him the *reed straw*, has, for two or three years past, ripened earlier than any other within our knowledge; and many other farmers have procured it for seed. This year, although quite early, Colonel M. informs us, the berry is not quite as good as usual, being slightly injured by rust; and another early variety, called *Missouri*, a bearded variety with brown chaff and berry — has turned out better than any other with him. Both these varieties are a little earlier than the Mediterranean, and of better quality for market or for flour. He offers to furnish either kind for seed, to those who desire, at $1,25 to $1,50 per bushel."

TEST FOR GOOD LIMESTONE.

The best lime for agricultural purposes is that which is lightest, whitest, and softest to the touch; the purest and strongest lime is always found the lightest. If, then, by calcination, limestone loses much of its weight by the process; if the limeshells are extremely light, and require, for slaking them fully, a large portion of water; if they are a considerable time before they begin to fall; if, during the process of burning, the limestone is not disposed to run or become vitrified; if it increases very much in bulk by slaking, and the lime is of a pure white, and fine and light to the touch, it may be set down as very good, and should be used in preference to other lime not possessing the same qualities. — *English Paper.*

For the New England Farmer.

PEARS ON APPLE STOCKS.

Mr. Cole: You say, in your Fruit Book, that the Seckel pear does better on the apple than other kinds. Every body says that it is harder to grow on its own roots, particularly from the ground, than most other varieties; but how much better it will do on apple roots, or whether it will succeed sufficiently well to justify nurserymen in budding it on the apple, is a question which I should like to have answered by you, or some one who has fairly tried the experiment. If it will produce more, or even as much fruit, and of larger size, and at the same time grow enough faster to overbalance any defect to which the tree or quality of the fruit may be subjected, then it may perhaps be grown on the apple to advantage.

The great and principal objection to the Seckel pear is small size and slow growth with common culture. Now, if this objection can be removed by being grown on the apple, without essentially injuring the quality of the fruit, or health of the tree, I think it ought to be known by all who are engaged in the culture of fruit; but if not, I hope none will be disappointed in attempting thus to cultivate the Seckel pear. But I leave the subject with you, wishing you to take such notice of the above as you may think proper.

Yours respectfully,

E. F. RICHARDSON.

Medway, *July* 23, 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — Generally the Seckel pear on the apple stock yields fruit considerably larger than its usual size, but the quality is inferior. We do not think that this, or any other variety of pear, can be cultivated on the apple, as a matter of utility, but only for curiosity, or as a matter of experiment in illustrating the principles of botanical science. One important fact learned from such experiments is, that the stock affects the fruit of the scion. We have a scion of the Vicar of Winkfield pear that has been growing five or six years on an apple-tree. The fruit is always hard, and never ripens. Whether this is owing to the stock, or other cause, we cannot tell.

For the New England Farmer.

PEAR-TREE BLIGHT.

Friend Cole: Although of limited experience and slight observation, as regards the propagation of fruit trees, and the cultivation and raising of fruit, and particularly the pear, yet I offer a word respecting the latter.

I have seen, read, and heard something about the blight in the pear-tree; but whether the cause thereof has been traced out and settled, I know not.

There may be a series of concurrent causes, the resultant of which is the destruction of the tree.

I lately cut a twig from a young pear-tree, the leaves of which were dark and dead; and on examining it closely, I found, among the dead and dying leaves, a swarm of small worms invested in a very attenuated web. It was the extreme end of a limb, and but a few leaves on it; yet it contained hundreds of the little destroying insects or worms — the head black, the body regular, semi-transparent, and of a yellow color, being about three sixteenths of an inch in length, and of squirming activity, in the rain. They destroy the fine green part of the leaf, which leaves it lifeless.

Whether the operations of the minute grub have any thing to do towards producing blight or disease, I know not, any further than that the destruction in the above instance was complete as far as it went. It is the first thing of the kind that has come under my observation. Although of small account, and perhaps a solitary instance, yet sad results may be, and often are, attributable to minute and apparently insignificant agents. J.

Editorial Remarks — In a great many cases, it is difficult to determine whether insects are a cause or consequence of disease. There are various kinds of insects that destroy the foliage of pear and other fruit trees. But the blight, as generally found in pear-trees is not caused by insects, in our opinion, but by great heat. Like the potato rot, it is too sudden and extensive to be the work of insects, and they cannot be discovered in their operations.

We have had seedling pears of the first year's growth blighted early in the season, on hot, dry soil; while near by, in a moist, cool soil, they were vigorous. The seed was the same, and the manuring and cultivating of the two lots were similar.

High culture of the pear-tree, producing a rapid growth, predisposes it to blight; hence the prevalence of this disease in the fertile regions of the west, and its more common occurrence in those varieties that are great growers.

For the New England Farmer.

COTTAGES.

Mr. Editor: I was pleased to notice, in the number of June 23, a representation of a cottage. The economy and convenience of buildings are subjects well deserving a place in your valuable paper, and I therefore bespeak for them further notice from you and your correspondents.

A mistake made in the erection of buildings is one that cannot be repaired without loss. Order, and neatness also, tend much to make home pleasant, and have an improving effect upon the whole nature of man. Now, it cannot be doubted but what, if we consider the plan of the building only, not counting closeness of trade, that some men will obtain as much for eight hundred dollars as another will for one thousand dollars. If these things be so, then any course which will give the best plans to those who may wish to build, is an object worth obtaining.

As you placed the cottage referred to in a farmer's paper, I infer that you meant it for a farmer's cottage; but I think a different plan in some particulars would suit my ideas a little better. I would not, however, find fault, for I was pleased that you gave it; but I would suggest that a sleeping apartment upon the floor of the house is a great comfort and convenience. And does not convenience also demand that the pantry should join the kitchen? An approximate estimate of the cost would be interesting, if stated. I will write no more for the present, but remain yours for

ECONOMY AND NEATNESS.

Aug. 1849.

Editorial Remarks. — In giving the design for a cottage, referred to by our correspondent, our object was to give a general plan and style of building, which might be modified to suit the taste of the owner. In order to have a sleeping room below, an addition might be made, in the rear of the main building, for a kitchen communicating directly with

the pantry, which would allow of a bed room where the kitchen is now located.

There is not sufficient attention given to building, considering the importance of the subject. Buildings are very expensive, and in their erection we desire to combine several important advantages, such as economy and durability in building, convenience, pleasantness, ventilation, good taste, economy in fuel, &c. &c.; and in many cases some of these important advantages are sacrificed. As this subject claims the particular attention of our correspondent, we shall be happy to hear from him again.

For the New England Farmer.

DESTROYING BRAKES.

Mr. Editor: As I have lately come into possession of a farm which is much infested with brakes, and as I am ignorant of any practicable way of destroying them on lands which we cannot plough and cultivate, I should be greatly obliged, if you, or any of your contributors, will inform me, through your paper, of any method of ridding our pastures of these intruders. Such information, if it can be furnished, would be very gratefully received by the subscriber, and many other readers of the New England Farmer.

HORACE CARPENTER.

Worcester, Vt., *July* 1, 1849.

Reply. — The most effectual method of destroying brakes is to plough, cultivate thoroughly, and raise other crops. If we cannot plough, then we must come as near this system as possible. If the land is wet and cold, haul on gravel, sand, or loam, and manure and sow to grass. By putting the land into condition for good crops of grass, the brakes will be measurably subdued. By ploughing, and thorough tillage, and cropping, they may be wholly destroyed.

For the New England Farmer.

PROFITS OF PATENT RIGHTS AND PAPERS.

Mr. Editor: I noticed in the Farmer of June 9, an article headed "Bommer Manure." Having bought a patent right, I feel interested to know all that can be brought against it. Please let us know if you have actually made manure by the rules laid down in the right, or whether you guess at it. Guess work will not do for the farmer; his should be actual experience. I have yet to hear for the first time from the lips or pen of an individual who has bought a right and proved it a failure.

I earnestly desire you to give us your opinion on this matter, founded on facts, and draw the attention of contributors to this subject.

In closing up, you say, "We should think that the amount that has been taken from farmers for this fictitious right, which any one might have had by paying the subscription of a paper for one year, is not less than twelve or fourteen thousand dollars." Now let us balance accounts: The cost of the Ploughman, to say nothing of the postage, for one year, is two dollars. Bommer's Patent for the town of Needham, comprising two hundred farmers, cost eighty dollars which is forty cents to each individual right, leaving a balance in favor of the right of one dollar and sixty cents.

Brother farmers, let us look at this subject without partiality to either side, weigh facts honestly, and at the close of our talk, compare notes, know the truth, and so move on harmoniously together, and at the end reap an abundant harvest. Which is the wish of R. M.

West Needham, *July* 4, 1849.

P. S. I refer to the Ploughman because it was the only paper that, to my knowledge, called the farmers' attention to this subject; and when I bought my right the N. E. Farmer had no existence. R. M.

Editorial Remarks. — Our correspondent mistakes the object of our article on "Bommer Manure." We have said nothing against it. Our remarks were merely against the validity of the patent right, and a caution to farmers not to pay their money for nought. As to guess work, which R. M. condemns with so much severity, it is of great importance, especially to Yankees, who are constantly experimenting and inventing as a matter of guess work; hence the enterprise and improvement that every where prevail. Let a farmer guess that he cannot advance in his profession, and the question is settled. But let him guess that he can improve, and he will be sure to do it. The guessing of Yankees, for which they are distinguished, has performed wonders, and the whole world is feeling the effects of it.

We have not tried Bommer's system of making manure, nor have we any occasion to try it; for every material, animal, vegetable, mineral, or earthy, that we can collect, can be prepared in compost, and in due time fitted to apply to the land, without the extra expense and labor of making it by Bommer's system. A little foresight will enable the cultivator to have every kind of manure properly prepared and decomposed by the common system of composting.

As our opinion of Bommer's system has been asked, we will give it; and this we have already done, in a measure. A farmer who exercises a common share of foresight will always have his manure ready for use with less expense than by Bommer's method. Rarely a case may occur in which he suddenly wants a quantity of manure which he has not, and he may suddenly come into possession, or have an opportunity to acquire coarse materials which may be readily decomposed by Bommer's system. But a coincidence arising from two incidents of this kind is very rare with a regular, prudent farmer; yet it may occur. But in that case we would not pay four dollars, nor forty cents, for an old patent that had expired in France several years ago, and even before its expiration was not available to any individual in this country.

As to our remark about a person learning Bommer's method by paying the subscription of a paper one year, we wished to show that if a farmer was in the receipt of a journal devoted to his interest, he would be advised of current events pertaining to his profession. An account of making manure by the French mode would be a very small part of the information furnished, or this might be obtained in a single number, at an expense of only six cents; so let us square accounts on this item. — See page 271.

A change of fortune hurts a wise man no more than a change in the moon.

THE WHEAT MIDGE.

John Johnston, Esq., of Seneca county, one of our best farmers, writes, June 25th, —

"The weevil (wheat midge) has made its appearance among our wheat crops, more especially in the east and north of our county, immediately in this neighborhood. I think there will be no serious loss this season."

The following account of the Wheat Midge, taken from the North British Agriculturist, received from J. Hall Maxwell, Secretary Highland and Agricultural Society of Scotland, will be doubtless interesting to farmers: —

"In examining the ears in an early field, some yellow maggots were found. This led to the conclusion that some fly or other had deposited its eggs within the glume, where the maggots were discovered; and by examining the ears with a microscope, numbers of apparently new laid-eggs were discovered in clusters near the embryo grain. This, of course, led to further research; and on a later field of spring-sown wheat, just as the one side of the ear had opened the sheath, we observed, as was anticipated, as many as twelve or fourteen midges on the exposed part of each ear, busily employed in depositing their eggs within the glume, which, we remarked, were glued to the inside of the glume by a gummy substance, exuded at the same time with the eggs. One of our party remarked that he had seen the same fly deposit eggs in the same way on a panicle of grass; on examining which, we found it to be the common couch grass, the *triticum repens* of Linnæus, showing that the Swede was a more correct botanist than those of modern times, who have assigned it another genus than that of *triticum* or wheat. We have not heard that it has been ever observed to deposit eggs on any other grass. Having so far found out the cause of what went under the convenient name of the 'blight in wheat,' we applied to Kirby and Spence, who had previously written concerning this little gnat, and who knew it by the name of *tipula tritice*, but who still left us in ignorance as to its winter quarters.

"Our attention was directed to find out any thing we could about its transformation; and we placed some ears in a glass runner, with the stalks inserted an inch in sand, through a paper perforated with holes, to let the stalks downwards into the sand. This paper covering was intended to let us observe more easily when the larvæ left the ear. About three weeks thereafter, on examining wheat ears in the field, we found many of them quite empty of the larvæ, and the embryo grain quite dead where the larvæ had been. We then examined the ears in the runner, and found them also empty, without any appearing on the paper below; on lifting of which carefully, we found the larvæ had descended, and found their way down through the perforations made for the wheat stalks, now in the dormant pupa state, of a semi-circular shape and copper color. This led to further observations in such fields as had been somewhat later; when it was observed that the outer parts of the glume were inhabited by small black beetles in great numbers; and we found, as soon as the larva escaped from the glume, the beetle, led apparently by the smell, moved about with rapidity, making much use of its feelers; and whenever a feeler touched the larva, it instantly darted an egg into its body, making it the *nidus* of its future progeny. This beetle is called by the naturalists *ceraphron destructor*, and seems one of those means by which the wise and beneficent Ruler of all things gives a check to creatures that might otherwise prove seriously hurtful. Such investigations, to which farmers were led, soon made them quite familiar with every thing connected with the habits of the fly. It was found that it came into the fly state when the mean temperature of the preceding ten days was about fifty-six degrees Fahrenheit. It was also perceived that it was too delicate to be exposed to the sun's rays throughout the day, when it continued among the shady wheat foliage; and it could only lay its eggs in a calm evening, when the temperature was at or about fifty-six degrees, betaking itself to the shelter when the temperature fell to fifty-three or fifty-four degrees; nor could it deposit its eggs except the air was perfectly calm, and its work of mischief, it was found, could only be performed during three days, at the most, of the plants' growth, just as the one side of the ear appeared. Various plans have been devised for preventing its depredations, but hitherto, so far as we know, these have all been ineffectual."

In this state, the varieties of wheat known as the *Mediterranean* and the *Black Sea*, the former a winter, and the latter a spring variety, have more frequently escaped the ravages of the wheat midge than any other, and are now being largely cultivated in those sections of the state where the insect has appeared. It is probably owing to their ripening at a season when the fly is not so prevalent, that they escape, to a great extent, its ravages. The *White Blue Stem*, a winter variety, and a very fine white wheat, is said also to escape the ravages of the fly. It has been cultivated in Maryland considerably, and to some extent in Chatauque county, in this state. — *Selected.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — The wheat worm has been so destructive in some parts of New England, that the culture of wheat has, occasionally, been almost wholly abandoned. The best preventive is late sowing, so that the midge or fly will have appeared and passed away, before the wheat is in a suitable state for it to operate on this plant. A great evil that sometimes attends late sowing is rust, so that the farmer, in avoiding one evil, runs into another. But with care in selecting those varieties of wheat not liable to rust, — and such there are, — the effects of the worm may be prevented without serious evil, generally, from the rust. This is a very important subject, and we hope that farmers will give more attention in selecting wheat that is generally exempt from rust.

CHEMISTRY IN ITS RELATION TO AGRICULTURE.

Of all sciences, chemistry is that which has the nearest relation to agriculture, and lends to it the greatest aid. It is a science that points out to us means by which we may add to the fertility of the ground through the medium of foreign substances applied to it; but, in the case of chemistry, as in that of all other sciences, a certain degree of caution is necessary in carrying into practice the rules laid down by the theorist, when in his laboratory. Chemistry enables us at once to test the real value of any given substance, without the uncertainty and loss of time attendant on a trial; and when it is considered how much time must have been lost, how unsatisfactory the result must repeatedly have been, when no such knowledge existed to certify the progress of discovery, the value of this science may in some measure be estimated. It is certain that the principles on which vegetables are nourished depend altogether upon chemistry; and agriculture, in its modern and improved state, has led, with considerable precision, to a knowledge of those laws of vegetation by which we are enabled to ameliorate the land, and to increase the quantity as well as improve

the quality of its productions. The farmer who applies a peculiar species of manure, which has been found beneficial to his ground, being himself ignorant of chemistry, only follows the practice of his predecessors or neighbors; but while he sneers at the theorist who would direct his attention to the studies of the first principles of his art, both he and those whom he follows were probably originally indebted for that practice to the observations of men of science. No one who is at all conversant with the subject of manure can be ignorant that, notwithstanding the management of intelligent husbandmen, a great want of knowledge prevails among the common run of farmers regarding the best modes of its preparation and application. I think, if we were to pay a little more attention to the nature and properties of manure before we apply it to the soil, we may in that way sometimes reap great benefit. I think these things ought to be more seriously considered, not only for the benefit we may ourselves derive from it, but also the community. I know not that more cogent arguments for the union of chemistry with agriculture can be adduced than already exist in the stimulus all parties possess for advancing their individual interests; but of this we may feel assured, that as the end and object of all knowledge in connection with this subject is to increase the produce of the earth, so those who will not avail themselves of the assistance chemistry affords will be left behind in the struggle which is going on; and further, those who do rely on the science for an elucidation of the hitherto mysterious operations of nature, will not only derive a direct and immediate benefit from the application of chemistry to agriculture, but they will also proceed with less difficulty, from being assured that the laws of nature are uniform in their operations, and that a certain cause will always induce a certain result. Without a fair trial being given to the opinions of the one or the power of the other, the hints thrown out by the scientific are often overpowered and put down by that concentrated mass of ignorance and prejudice through which the light of science can rarely penetrate. Every year shows us more and more clearly that we must find a surer way of obtaining good crops than our forefathers; we have the foreign grower to contend with, and must now look to science, not leave it to the next generation of farmers, for the aid which practice alone cannot afford us. I do not mean to say a farmer must be a professed chemist and master of analysis; on the contrary, I think it would be useless for him to trouble himself with the sixty-two elementary or simple bodies which the numberless forms of matter, of which the crust of the globe is composed, are capable of being resolved into; but it is necessary every farmer should have a certain amount of information on scientific subjects, more especially with those that point out to him the composition of the various plants he cultivates, and of the manures he carries on his land. Liebig says, in his excellent work on "Chemistry in its Application to Agriculture and Physiology," "Now that the conditions which render the soil productive and capable of affording support to plants are ascertained, it cannot well be denied, that from chemistry alone further progress in agriculture is to be expected."

G. S., A YOUNG FARMER.

— *The Plough, Loom, and Anvil.*

DEVON CATTLE.

Among the improved breeds of cattle in this country, the Devons are held in high estimation, and probably the most generally admired. As a distinct breed of neat cattle, they possess several features peculiar to themselves, of which they are very tenacious — retaining them in a great degree, even through their distant crosses with other breeds, and particularly our native stock. The color of pure Devons is always red, varying to a dark mahogany. The dark color is generally most admired, although the light shades are equally profitable. There is occasionally a little white on the belly, which is more common with the heifers than the steers, and the cows' udders are frequently white. The hairs which form the brush of the tail are very remarkable: on calves they are a darker shade than the other parts of the body, but always turn white before the animals are three years old. The hide is thin, soft and mellow to the hand — the hair silky, and frequently curled. The horns are long, fine and smooth, and frequently yellow at the root when young; the muzzle and round the eye yellow, with a bright, keen, and active countenance.

The Devons are fine-boned, clean-limbed, and very active — resembling in cattle what is called blood in horses more than any other stock. They are good feeders, and make as much beef in proportion to the food consumed as any other cattle. Their beef is also of the best quality, being what fleshers call *marbled*, (or well mixed with alternate fat and lean;) and they always prove well when dressed — weighing heavy to their appearance. In size they are about the medium of neat stock. When dressed, the cows weigh from six to eight hundred, and oxen from ten to fifteen hundred pounds, grass fed.

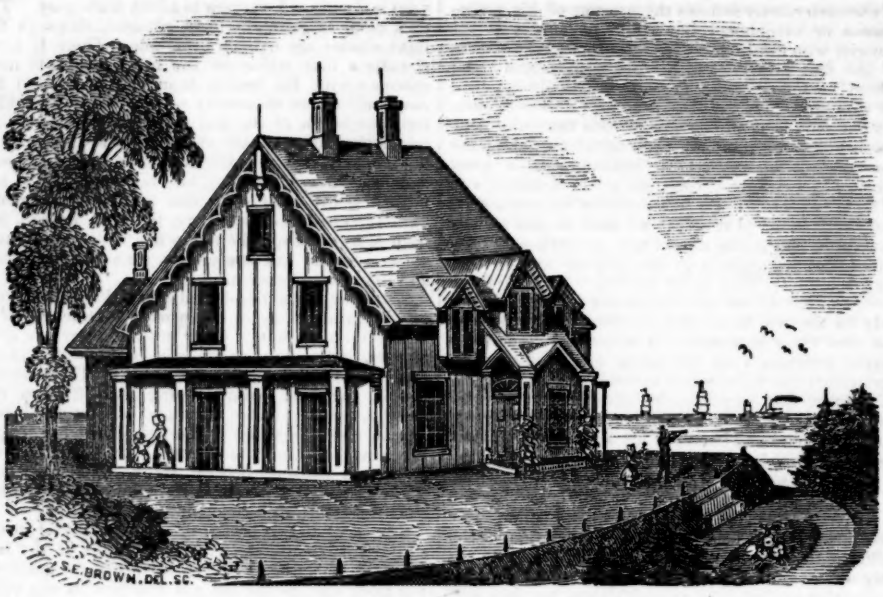
The bulls of this breed are usually inferior in size and beauty to the oxen; but his stock is the best proof of the value of a sire, and not his appearance. For labor the Devons are not excelled by any other breed; and their uniformity of color and build renders them easily matched. They are very active, docile, and tractable, as well as tough and hardy, and when carefully used, will perform much labor from four to eight years of age, without diminishing their size or aptness to fatten.

As milkers, the Devons are similar to our native cows, but the quality of their milk is always rich. On this point, Mr. Allen, author of "Domestic Animals," (published in 1848,) remarks — "The cows invariably yield milk of great richness, and, when appropriately bred, none surpass them for the quantity of butter and cheese it yields. Mr. Bloomfield, the manager of Lord Leicester's estate at Holkham, has, by careful attention, somewhat increased the size, without impairing the beauty of their form; and so successful has he been in developing their milking properties, that his average product of butter from each cow is four pounds per week for the whole year. He has challenged England to milk an equal number of cows of any breed, against forty pure Devons, to be selected out of his own herd, without, as yet, having found a competitor."

We believe the Devons were first introduced into Western New York, about twenty-five years ago, by William Garbutt, Esq., of Wheatland. In 1835 or 1836, Mr. G. stocked his farm in Sheldon (in charge of Mr. Beck, an experienced Scotch farmer) with a portion of his home stock. In 1838 or 1839, Mr. Vernon, of Roanoke, Genesee county, imported a bull and two heifers from the best stock in Devonshire, England. Messrs. Garbutt, Beck, and others bred from the Vernon bull, (now known as the Dibble bull,) and produced many valuable animals. This stock is now scattered over much of Western New York, and some of it in Michigan and Canada; so that purchasers can be accommodated with thoroughbred Devons, not inferior to any, at much less expense and trouble than to import them from England.

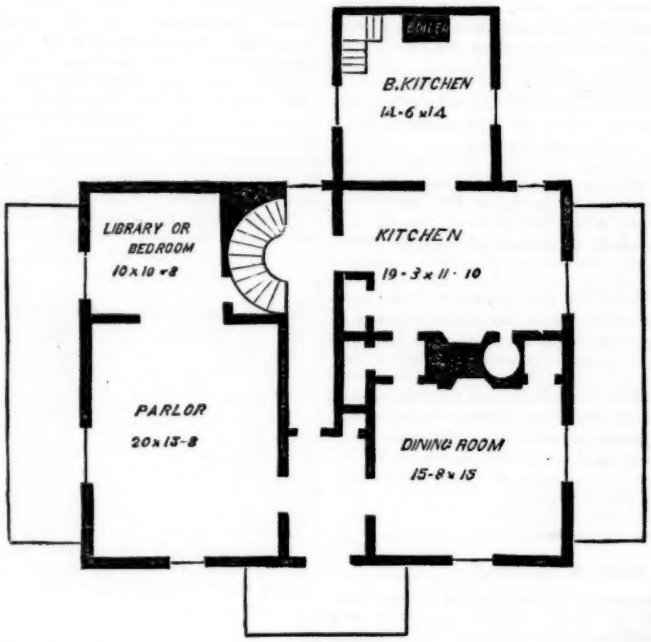
— *Genesee Farmer.*

The earth is said to be 7616 miles in diameter, and 24,880 miles round.



COTTAGE OF A. A. LAWRENCE, ESQ.

AT THE HEAD OF LONG BEACH, LYNN, MASS.



GROUND PLAN.

COTTAGES.

Our engraving represents a beautiful cottage built for a gentleman's summer residence. It is very commodious and convenient, and is handsomely finished outside and in. The walls are made with upright planks and battens, which is a very substantial and durable mode, and for a cottage better in appearance than clapboards. We show the ground plan. The parlor is warmed by a furnace. The room in the rear of the parlor, connected by folding doors, is used for an extension of the parlor, but it may be used as a study or library, or for a bed-room by those who would have a sleeping-room below. From the back kitchen are stairs to the room over it, and under them stairs to the cellar. The dimensions of the building exclusive of the piazzas and portico, are forty-two feet by thirty-two. The wing in the rear is fifteen feet square.

In the second story are four large sleeping-rooms in the main building, and another over the back kitchen, communicating with the hall, affording a passage from the back stairs to all parts of the second and third stories, which many desire. The two windows, in front, communicating with the sleeping-rooms, in this story, extend below the eaves, which renders the rooms more pleasant; and the second story, on this account, does not extend up so far as usual, so that there are two good sized bed-rooms in the attic. In the front of the hall, in the second story, is a dressing-room.

According to the carpenter's estimate, a cottage in this style, externally, finished in a neat and thorough manner, would cost about three thousand dollars, in this vicinity. Where labor and materials are cheaper, it could be built for fifteen hundred to two thousand dollars, according to the style of finish.

In the construction of this cottage, there is great saving of materials and labor, by using planks for the walls of the usual width, varying from eight to fourteen inches. The appearance is the same as though they were of a uniform width, excepting on close inspection; and even then it is no disadvantage to the appearance. In most cases, time and lumber are wasted in reducing the planks or boards to a uniform width.

For a permanent residence, in the interior, or for a farm house, we would suggest several improvements in this plan, and some changes might be made as a matter of economy in building. A chimney could be made between the parlor and the room in the rear, for the convenience of warming both rooms; and by extending the folding doors nearly to the wall, the rear room could be used as a part of the parlor, or, with a narrow door, it might be used for other purposes. With folding doors it could be used for other purposes generally, or for an extension of the parlor.

The dining-room could be used for a sitting-room, the kitchen for a dining-room, and the back kitchen for a kitchen. In this case, the oven and a fireplace should be in the kitchen, in connection with the boiler, which is shown on the plan.

COUNTRY LIFE.

How often do we hear country ladies bewailing their lot, complaining of the monotony of a country life, and envying the destiny of such of their acquaintance as live in the turmoil and excitement of a town! Would our fair readers but explore the rich treasures of rational and pure enjoyment that are so profusely scattered around a country house, they would be more apt to condole with them than envy their sisters of the city. Our object, in these pages, will be to awaken in your minds an interest in the various works of nature, so thickly strown around you; to direct your attention to the birds, which build their nests, and sing their varied songs of love and joy, in every tree, and bush, and shrub; to the flowers, which deck with their thousand hues the sunny bank and the fertile meadows, the parched heath and the rippling brook; and, above all, to teach your thoughts to ascend from the admiration of the creature to the contemplation of the Creator, and in all your observation of the works of nature, "to look through nature up to nature's God."

Each season has its glories and its wonders. First comes Spring. Animated by her genial breath, the whole face of nature changes; that which is now wrapped in the gloom and sleep of winter, will soon awake to renewed life and vigor, and all this will take place at first slowly and gradually. Now, then, is the time to commence your observations, before the multiplicity of objects distracts your attention and bewilders your ideas. You must acquire a habit of observing; not merely of looking and of seeing, but of intimately, narrowly observing; for be assured that an observant Polyphemus, with his solitary eye, obtains far more information in one day than an unobservant Argus, with his hundred eyes, in a whole month. It is surprising how your interests in your daily walks will be increased, when you have gained an insight into the history, the uses, and the various objects which you meet with. No walk, at least no country walk, can be devoid of interest to a mind desirous of acquiring information. You will ever be meeting with something new to excite your admiration, ever falling in with something fresh, to impart instruction and to afford amusement. These country walks will give vigor to the mind, and health to the body; that which before was too frequently looked upon as a toil, will now be regarded as a pleasure; you will often be induced to take exercise in the open air, and the result will be a buoyancy of spirits, and a lightness of heart, and a cheerfulness of temper, which all your poor amusements, and all your previous formal walks had failed to produce. — *Plough, Loom, and Anvil.*

THE NORTHERN SPY APPLE.

The correspondent of the Springfield Republican, writing from Rochester, N. Y., April 24, says,—

The choicest winter apple cultivated in the Genesee Valley is the Northern Spy. It does not ripen so as to be suitable for eating until February; it keeps well till June, and even until the 4th of July. The following remarks are quoted from Richard J. Hand, Esq., of Mendon, situated near Rochester:—

"I have," says he, "grown the Northern Spy apple from fifteen to twenty years. I have on the whole found it a good bearer — fruit extremely fair looking — size good; and with me it yields a better crop than the Swaar. I have kept a few in fine order until the 4th of July. The general crop I can keep till the last of May or first of June. The quality I consider superior to any other apple. I have sold my crops in Rochester; and they have averaged at least one dollar a bushel, for ten years last past;

and I can sell this more readily than any other apple.

"The trees put forth their leaves from ten to fourteen days later than any other apple, and on that account are more secure from late spring frosts. They are fine, smooth-barked, and thrifty-growing trees, making in the orchard a finer looking tree than any other in the vicinity."

This apple is a seedling, and was first produced in an orchard in East Bloomfield, a few miles east of Rochester. The seed was brought from Connecticut about fifty years ago.

The tree, it is said, bears every year: many of the specimens measure twelve inches in circumference. The tree is of upright and of compact growth.

These apples have been selling this winter in market for three dollars a barrel, when other good winter apples were selling for seventy-five cents per barrel. The Spy is remarkable for its freshness, juiciness and delicious flavor.

IMPROVEMENT IN CATTLE AND HORSES.

We copy the following from an article in the Albany Cultivator, by one of the editors, who made a tour of observation in some sections of Vermont.

"Cattle. — Considerable interest is awakened in several neighborhoods, in regard to the improvement of cattle. A. Chapman, of Middlebury, kept for several years a first-rate Ayrshire bull, from the herd of Mr. Cushing, of Watertown, Mass. We have before spoken of this stock; but it has since been more fully proved for the dairy. Mr. C. has several half blood, and some three quarter blood Ayrshire cows. Some of them are, in points, about all that could be looked for in a dairy cow: and we have reason to believe that their 'looks do not belie them.' Mr. C. informs us, that in fourteen days of June, 1848, four of these cows made eighty and three fourth pounds of butter, besides supplying a family of fourteen persons with milk and cream. One of the four made eleven and three fourth pounds of butter in seven days. The last of September, 1848, three of the above four cows made thirty pounds of butter in seven days, or ten pounds per week each. They are a small-boned, thrifty stock. Mr. C. states that he killed a pair of half blood steers, three years and six months old, fed for two months mostly on sugar beets, — no meal or grain of any kind, — and they weighed a trifle over a thousand pounds each.

"Messrs. Bingham, of Cornwall, have introduced the full blood Herefords, from the late herd of Corning & Sotham, of this city. They look, generally, remarkably well, and prove to be a very valuable stock for this section. Their hardiness adapts them to the climate; they are easily kept, and thrive rapidly on hay or grass. The general characteristics of the Herefords have been stated in our columns. A. L. Bingham has several Durham heifers, purchased of Mr. Rotch, of Otsego county, N. Y., which he is crossing with Hereford bulls.

"Paris Fletcher, of Bridport, has several full blood Durham cows, and several good half bloods. Two of the full bloods have lately been sold to Mr. Henshaw, of Boston. Mr. Chipman, of Shoreham, has some fine cows, — crosses of the Durham breed. A four-year-old cow of his gave, as was stated, twenty-four quarts of milk per day in June.

"Mr. Sanford, of Orwell, has some full blood Devons, and some highly crossed with the Devon. He has a beautiful young bull, purchased of Mr. Atwood, of Connecticut. He was by Mr. Hurbut's bull, Bloomfield; his dam from the herd of Mr. Washbon, of Otsego county, N. Y. The Devons have thus far done well in Mr. S.'s hands, and he is determined to increase them. We see nothing to hinder their being a useful and profitable stock here.

"Mr. Vanderlip, keeper of the hotel at Manchester, has some Durham cows, from the herd formerly owned by Hon. L. C. Ball, of Hoosick, N. Y.; two of which are great milkers. He has also some handsome cows and heifers from Connecticut, showing much Devon blood, which appear well as dairy cows. There are several bulls and considerable young stock in the neighborhood, mixed more or less with the Ayrshire and Devon blood; and the farmers generally consider an infusion of the blood of these breeds an improvement.

"Horses. — The introduction of 'Black Hawk,' has made an unquestionable and important improvement in the horse stock of this section. The oldest of his progeny here are four years old, and have been more or less proved. They have generally size enough, and a large proportion of them are superior in form, style, and action. The maximum of their speed has not, of course, been ascertained at this green age; but that they will not be wanting in this respect, might be shown by examples 'too numerous to mention' here. As a specimen, we will refer to the performance of a mare, four years old, owned by J. W. Holcomb, of Ticonderoga, which, as we were credibly informed, trotted in a sleigh, last winter, twenty-six miles in two hours and ten minutes. Those who wish further particulars in regard to the stock, will obtain them by making inquiries in the proper quarter.

"Mr. J. Hill, of Sunderland, has introduced a horse which is a cross of the English draft horse. We had not an opportunity of seeing him; but he was described to us as being six years old, — seventeen hands high, — weight thirteen hundred and eighty pounds. He is said to be well made, and a good traveller. It is thought he will be useful in improving the stock of the neighborhood."

THE BEST MERINOS.

We copy the following proposal from the American Agriculturist. We hope that there will be a large competition for the prize offered, that the peculiar excellences of different flocks of sheep may be known, with a view of improving this highly valuable race of animals.

"A purse of one hundred dollars having been offered for the twenty-five best Merino ewes, and the twenty-five best Merino lambs, under one year old, by a private gentleman, the exhibition to be at the Fair of the New York State Agricultural Society, I purpose to be a competitor in that exhibition, against any and all flocks of Merino sheep that may be brought against me. I give this out, not as a challenge, but simply as a proposition, which shall call forth my brother farmers throughout the length and breadth of the land. My object is to convince myself where the best Merino sheep are. If I have not got them, I must have them; for I am resolved to improve from the best, whatever may be the cost. By a fair and manly competition, we may compare the best specimens from the best flocks, and by that means learn where the best sheep are to be found.

"For a series of years, I have spared no pains and expense to possess myself of the best sheep of the pure Merino race the United States could afford, or to be found in the Old World. It remains to be seen whether these efforts have been successful; and to this end, I earnestly invite the Merino wool-growers, throughout the Union, to meet me on the show ground, at Syracuse, next September, in honorable competition, to compare the twenty-five best ewes, and the same number of lambs from our respective

flocks, and thus add another feature to this somewhat national exhibition, which will be made at the New York State Fair. A. L. BINGHAM.

CORNWALL, VT., *July* 16, 1849."

CLAY.

This earth is, as most of your readers are probably well aware, "a compound of silica and alumina." These constituents are not merely mingled together, but chemically combined. In much of the clay found in nature, there is an extra quantity of silica, "which exists in it in the form of sand, of various degrees of fineness." Clay also, in all cases, contains iron "in a higher or lower state of oxidation, and it is probable that this metal constitutes an essential part of it." This, indeed, is now the prevalent view taken of the subject, by those who have most carefully examined it, and there appears but little ground to doubt the correctness of the conclusion. This matter, oxide, is of various colors, and is, indeed, dependent upon the degree of oxidation. It is sometimes red, sometimes black, brown, and yellow. The "black indicates the lowest degree of oxidation, and the red the highest."

As a general thing, the presence of clay, in some quantity, seems to be indispensable to the fertility of soils; and hence I find that light, pulverulent, and sabulous loams are decidedly improved by spreading clay upon them, and mixing it, in a pulverized state, with the superior stratum, or surface soil, and in such quantity as is necessary to insure an increased absorbent power, as well as greater compressibility of the entire stratum which is the medium of vegetable germination and growth. Plains land, which is almost and invariably of a sandy texture, possessed of little productive energy, and too light to be successfully worked, becomes highly fertile when highly ameliorated by liberal applications of clay.

A friend of mine from the east remarks, in reference to the subject of amalgamation, as follows: "When I commenced life, my means were too limited to allow of my purchasing, or even seriously thinking of such a farm as I wished to possess. Compelled by necessity, I therefore 'sat down' on a tract of 'plains land,' which I purchased for two dollars per acre. The growth was mostly pine, and a species of dwarf vegetation, called here '*gray* birch,' with a profuse 'crop' of underbrush, composed of fern, whortleberry, and other diminutive shrubs.

"As soon as the soil was broken, I commenced hauling on clay, and have continued the practice constantly ever since. I have now brought most of my farm to a degree of productiveness not surpassed, I presume, by the best loam lands in the state. The last season, I harvested ninety-seven and a half bushels of sound Indian corn from an acre, and from a field adjoining, measuring four acres, I took eight and three fourths tons of English hay — nearly two and a quarter tons per acre. I am still improving these fields by continuing the process of amalgamation — there being not yet clay enough to qualify the sand."

A MONTGOMERY COUNTY FARMER.

July 10, 1849.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

REMARKS BY EDITOR N. E. FARMER. — In New England, there are a great many thousand acres of light lands that are regarded as almost worthless, that might be rendered fertile by the addition of clay and good culture; and clay banks are common near such lands. Yet these lands, for miles and miles in extent, even near good markets, are neglected, while many farmers have passed by them, gone thirty to one hundred miles farther into the interior, and there till a hard, rugged soil for scanty crops, and pass over these lands of easy culture, on their way to market, with their produce, which has cost as much in its transportation as it would to raise the same produce on these light lands, if placed under judicious management.

HOUSE CISTERNS.

It is frequently the case that farmers and others are so circumstanced as to render a constant and full supply of water impracticable. We have now in our mind's eye a beautiful village, containing a population of some one hundred or more, in which there is but one well! The village in question is located on an eminence, from which the land descends in every direction, and which is surrounded, at its base, with numerous springs and rills of excellent water. The well is about eighty feet deep, and the expense of digging it proved the experiment to be too costly to warrant its repetition; consequently, it is the only well in the place, and the proprietor is remunerating himself for his outlay in digging it, by a regular tax on the neighbors, who use his water, at so much a year. In such situations, the construction of cisterns for the reception of rain water, is the only resource, and when the formation of them is properly conducted, will secure a full supply of the necessary article, for ordinary domestic and household uses, the year round. The cost of a good cistern, sufficiently capacious to hold from one to two hundred hogsheads, need not be great, as a very large proportion of the work can be performed by the hired help during seasons of leisure. One of the greatest inconveniences a farmer can experience, especially in a dry season, is the lack of a sufficient supply of water. The following method of constructing cisterns, of large or small size, is said to be common in many places, and to be the most economical of any yet discovered: The workmen proceed first to dig a hole, of a circular form, and of the desired capacity, at the place where a cistern is wanted, and shape it after the usual fashion of an earthen pot, which shape is deemed best adapted to give strength. Care should be taken to have the sides as smooth and even as possible. The plasterer then comes to give it a coat of mortar, made of hydraulic cement and clean sand, in the proportion of one part of the former to two of the latter, wet with water to a suitable consistency. This is plastered immediately against the sides of the pit, beginning at the bottom and extending upward, and on the horizontal part of the offset to the perpendicular part. If the soil should be sandy, it may occasion some trouble to the plasterer, which an expert workman can readily overcome, and if any part should cave a little, a few broken bricks or stones may be put in to hold up the sand or caving earth, till the first coat is put on, which will soon harden and sustain the earth in its place. When this coat is sufficiently dry, of which the workman can judge, a second must be added, then a third, each about half an inch in thickness. These render the sides perfectly secure against the caving of the earth, forming a powerful stone pot or cistern, which hardens and strengthens for proper use. The roof or caving is lodged upon the offset, and should be made of two inch plank, leaving a suitable hole for drawing the water, or the insertion of a pump. One barrel of cement is sufficient for a cistern holding eighty barrels of water, and more than sufficient where the soil is compact and the sides of the excavation fair and smooth. AGRICOLA.

LOWER DUBLIN, *June* 27, 1849.

— *Germantown Telegraph.*

Domestic Department.

Domestic Education. — The time is coming when domestic duties are expected to be performed upon scientific principles; and we are bound to employ every means in our power to make ourselves acquainted with the sciences pertaining to our domestic affairs. A knowledge of chemistry and dietetics, in a cook, is invaluable to a family. Information regarding the laws of health, and life, and mental philosophy, is absolutely necessary to the proper rearing of children. The suffering I have seen and experienced for want of knowledge, and the almost incredible advantage gained by the application of a few practical ideas, makes me very desirous for others, as well as myself, that we should have "more light."

I think, however, it is not proper that we should always be in performance of the sober duties of life. Nature does not bestow all her care on the sturdy oak and mountain pine, but adorns the landscape with an endless variety of fanciful colors and forms, enlivens the whole with music, and the frolicsome play of animated beings. Nor did she fail to implant in the human mind faculties harmonizing with the beauty, melody, and gayety of external nature, which find a legitimate sphere of action in ornamental horticulture, vocal and instrumental music, &c. — *Genesee Farmer.*

New Mode of preserving Butter. — There cannot be a doubt that the cause why butter is difficult to preserve good, is, that some material or ingredient of the milk combines so intimately with the buttery particles, that it is very difficult to separate. It has been said that Mr. E. H. Merryman, of Springfield, Illinois, has discovered that this substance is *casein*, or the cheesy matter, and that he has contrived a mode of separating it by mechanical means, and thus preserves butter a long time if it be exposed to the atmosphere. The Scientific American, remarking upon this subject, says that this separation of casein is done, by the Tartars of the Crimea, by melting the butter over a slow fire and removing the scum as it rises. The butter is kept in a melted state these by means of a water bath at one hundred and eighty degrees, until the caseous matter subsides to the bottom. This is a slow and tedious method, and if Mr. Merryman's method is successful, it must be a very great improvement. — *Maine Farmer.*

Improved Method of preserving Milk, patented by F. H. F. Louis. — The milk is to be mixed with well-clarified raw sugar, four ounces to the gallon. It is then to be evaporated with agitation. When nearly solid, it must be pressed into cakes of suitable size. Steam may be used for the evaporation; or, if time is no object, spontaneous evaporation in very shallow pans, with the fluid not more than one tenth of an inch in depth, or a drying chamber may be used, the temperature not to exceed 122° Fahr. The cakes remain sweet and fresh for a long time, and are soluble in warm water. Another process is, to heat the sweetened milk nearly to the boiling point, and before it becomes cold, to curdle it by rennet or a weak acid. The curd is separated from the whey, and by strong pressure after washing in cold water, it is obtained free from adhering water. The whey is to be evaporated to dryness. The curd, placed over a slow fire, is continually stirred, and the dried whey added very gradually, with a small portion of bi-carbonate of soda. After a while, the ingredients melt and unite. A small quantity of finely pulverized gum dragon, hastens the solidification. Cream may be preserved by the same methods. — *Chemical Gazette.*

Peeling Potatoes. — Payen, the great French chemist, informs us that starch is not found in the epidermis, or in the tissues immediately subjacent, but that nitrogenized matters principally reside in these parts of the tuber. Hence a loss of the most nutritious portion of the vegetable is incurred by the common practice of peeling off the rind and parts underneath, before the boiling commences. It should also be remembered that cold water dissolves, while boiling coagulates, albumen. If potatoes, therefore, are thrown into cold water, and gradually heated, much of their nitrogenized principles will be extracted before the water reaches ebullition, while if it be made to boil before they are introduced, the coagulation will cause these matters to be retained within the tissue of the vegetable.

Boys' Department.

Counsels for the Young. — Never be cast down by trifles. If a spider break his thread twenty times, twenty times will he mend it again. Make up your minds to do a thing, and you will do it. Fear not, if a trouble comes upon you; keep up your spirits, though the day be a dark one.

If the sun is going down, look up to the stars; if the earth is dark, keep your eye on Heaven. With God's presence, and God's promises, a man or a child may be cheerful.

Mind what you run after. Never be content with a bubble that will burst, or firewood that will end in smoke and darkness. Get that which you can keep, and which is worth keeping.

Fight hard against a hasty temper. Anger will come, but resist it strongly. A spark may set a house on fire. A fit of passion may give you cause to mourn all the days of your life. Never revenge an injury.

If you have an enemy, act kindly to him, and make him your friend. You may not win him over at once, but try again. Let one kindness be followed by another, till you have compassed your end. By little and little, great things are completed; and so repeated kindness will soften the heart of stone.

Whatever you do, do it willingly. A boy that is whipped to school never learns his lessons well. A man that is compelled to work, cares not how badly it is performed. He that pulls off his coat cheerfully, strips up his sleeves in earnest, and sings while he works, is the man for me.

Evil thoughts are worse enemies than lions and tigers; for we can keep out of the way of wild beasts, but bad thoughts win their way every where. The cup that is full will hold no more; keep your heads and hearts full of good thoughts, that bad thoughts may find no room to enter. — *Am. Cabinet.*

Emblematic Properties of Flowers. — The fair lily is an image of holy innocence; the purpled rose is a figure of heartfelt love; faith is represented in the blue passion-flower; hope beams forth from the evergreen; peace from the olive branch; immortality from the immortelle; the cares of life are represented by the rosemary; the victory of the spirit by the palm; modesty by the blue fragrant violet; compassion by the peony; friendship by the ivy; tenderness by the myrtle; affectionate reminiscence by the forget-me-not; German honesty and fidelity

by the oak-leaf; unassumingness by the corn-flower (the cyanc;) and the attriculas, "how kindly they look upon us with their child-like eyes!" Even the dispositions of the human soul are expressed by flowers. Thus silent grief is portrayed by the weeping willow; sadness by the angelica; shuddering by the aspen; melancholy by the cypress; desire of meeting again by the starwort; the night-smelling rocket is a figure of life, as it stands on the frontiers between light and darkness. Thus Nature, by these flowers, seems to betoken her lovely sympathy with us; and whom hath she not often more consoled than heartless and voiceless men were able to do?

Health.

Influence of cutting the Hair. — Medical men are occasionally asked whether it is proper to cut the patient's hair; whether, in fact, this operation has any influence upon the health. M. Frederique resolves the question by giving the following illustration: —

A little girl, aged three years, of good health in general, had her hair grow excessively long during the course of a few months. She was a beautiful child, but had latterly wasted without any apparent cause, becoming dull and apathetic, losing her appetite and strength, without any organic lesion being discernible. She was placed upon a tonic regimen, with chalybeates, but without deriving material benefit, until her hair was cut short, at the suggestion of a friend, from which time she rapidly gained strength.

It would appear, from this case, that the economy had suffered a loss in the expenditure of blood necessary for the secretion of the abundant crop of hair. M. Frederique considers that it is the formation of the coloring matter which chiefly exhausts the blood, as this is formed at the expense of the hæmatosine. — *Farmer and Mechanic.*

Groaning and Crying. — A French surgeon lately published a long dissertation on the beneficial influence of groaning and crying, on the nervous system. He contends that groaning and crying are the two grand operations by which nature allays anguish, and that he has uniformly observed that those patients who give way to their natural feelings, more speedily recover from accidents and operations than those who suppose it is unworthy a man to betray such symptoms of cowardice as either to groan or to cry. He is always pleased by the crying and violent roaring of a patient during the time he is undergoing a severe surgical operation, because he is satisfied that he will thereby so soothe his nervous system as to prevent fever, and insure a favorable termination. From the benefit, hysterical and other patients (nervous) derive from groaning and crying, he supposes that by these processes of nature, the superabundant nervous power is exhausted, and that the nervous system is rendered calm and even, the circulation of the blood greatly diminished. He relates a case of a man, who, by crying and bawling, reduced his pulse from one hundred and twenty to sixty, in the course of two hours. That some patients often have a great satisfaction in groaning, and that hysterical patients often experience great relief from crying, are facts which no person will deny. As to restless, hypochondriacal subjects, or those who are never happy but when they are under some course of medical or dietetic treatment, the French surgeon assures them that they cannot do better than groan all night, and cry all day. By following this rule, and observing an abstemious diet, a person will effectually escape disease, and may prolong life to an incredible extent. — *Selected.*

Mechanics' Department, Arts, &c.

Alum. — The uses of alum are manifold and important. Incorporated with paper, it presents a hard, smooth surface, fit for writing upon; furriers employ it in the preservation of the hairy covering of skins; it retards putrefaction in animal substances, and hardens the tallow used for candles. Its astringent properties are valuable in medicine, and its caustic properties, as calcined alum, in surgery. But it is in dyeing that the use of alum is most important and most widely diffused. It is rare that coloring matters present any affinity to the substances to be dyed; most of them would disappear with the first washing, were there no medium by which they could be fixed. The substance employed for this purpose is called a *mordant*, or *bitter-in*; and in this respect alum holds a preëminent rank. This mineral is also made subservient to other less praiseworthy purposes; bakers use it to give a good color to bad flour, and to swell a comparatively small lump of dough into a large loaf; iced ginger beer and lemonade, offered for sale at railway stations and other places in England, if narrowly inspected, will be found imbedded in lumps of alum, which pass very well for ice. — *Farmer and Mechanic.*

Important Invention. — An invention has been made, and will soon be brought before the public, of great importance to railroads, both as relates to expedition and safety in the running and management of trains — and one which will add greatly to the security of property and life. It is an apparatus called the *self-adjusting brake*, in which the brake and coupling of the cars are combined in one, and so arranged that a single brakeman can control a long train of cars, and bring them to an almost instantaneous stand when in full motion. By one and the same operation the brake is brought to bear with equal force on the wheels of each car, so that all are checked in the same degree, and there is none of the jamming together of the cars which is usual in bringing a train suddenly to a stand. The cars couple themselves when they come together, and the brakeman can couple or disconnect the whole train without stepping from the platform, and can control the train equally well from any platform in the train. The power he is able to apply at any instant is immense, and may be varied at from one pound to twenty tons, at will. When a train is so very long as to make more than one brakeman desirable, as is sometimes the case with freight trains, the moment the brake is applied by one of them, it conveys the necessary signal to the other.

This improvement has been examined and highly approved by some of the most practical and scientific mechanics in the country, among them Mr. Keeler, of the Patent Office, so well known for his great mechanical knowledge, whose favorable opinion may be considered as conclusive in its favor. — *Selected.*

Soldering Cast Iron with Wrought Iron. — The following process has been recommended for that purpose: First, melt filings of soft cast iron with calcined borax, in a crucible; then pulverize the black vitreous substance, which is thereby produced, and sprinkle it over the parts which are intended to be united; after which heat the pieces of

cast and wrought iron, and weld them together on an anvil, using only gentle blows. This method is peculiarly applicable to the manufacture of iron articles which are intended to be made red hot, and are required to be impervious to fluids — as such a result cannot be obtained by simple fastening. — *Selected.*

FERTILIZING MANURES.

Professor J. J. Mapes, in a letter to the New York Tribune, makes mention of a great meadow in New Jersey, and its value as a fertilizer. He thus treats of the matter, which cannot but be instructive to all friends of agriculture: —

"This meadow muck may be considered as organic matter not in a state of decay, and if placed in soil without first inducing a chemical change, it will not act as a fertilizer. As compared with well decomposed stable manure, it bears the same analogy that sour-krout does to cabbage. If sour-krout be buried under the surface of the earth, it will remain for many years unaltered, while cabbage under similar treatment would be readily decomposed. If the excess of acid be first removed from krout, it will then decompose as readily as cabbage, and from the same causes. The muck is composed of the lighter particles of surface soils carried to its present locality by the rain; after being saturated frequently with salt water, its decomposition is arrested, and under this organism a style of gases peculiar to marshes takes possession of its surface. These gases are continually adding the carbon, which they receive from the atmosphere in the form of carbonic acid gas, to the muck, as the principal result of their decay, and thus the muck is found to contain large amounts of carbonuceous matters. When muck is exposed to winter frosts, the ultimate fibres of the decomposed roots it contains are torn asunder, and the mass is thus rendered pulverulent. In this state it is fit for easy decomposition. The quality of the grasses is much better on meadows which have been ditched for the purpose of supplying muck, and thus part of the cost of procurement is paid by the improved mowings.

"Muck may be decomposed in various ways, and will always produce beneficial results when used after decomposition as a manure. When mixed intimately with wood ashes, either the leached or unleached, it forms one of the best manures for fruit trees; and while the quantity of common salt it contains is insufficient to injure the peach, it is sufficient to prove highly serviceable to the plum; while its large proportion of carbonaceous matter renders it capable of receiving and retaining the ammonia of the atmosphere until required for the use of the roots. Muck is not a protection against the peach-worm, but trees, the trunks of which are surrounded by it, are less liable to their attacks. Muck, when mixed with ashes, readily receives moisture, and, if water be in great excess, the muck will for a long time prevent the land from souring, or the water from becoming fetid.

"When urine of animals is mixed with swamp muck, it already undergoes decomposition, and the resulting gases are retained. One tenth part of stable manure, well mixed with muck, will be found sufficient to cause the mass to heat readily and become as clear manure for farm use. If muck be placed under cows, oxen, &c., and covered by the bedding, so that their urine will pass through the bedding and combine with the muck while it contains the animal warmth, then the muck will be decomposed, and the warmth of the body of the animal while sleeping will materially assist in the decomposition. The solid manures, remaining atop of the bedding, should be removed each morning, and mixed with new portions of muck in the preparation before stated for mutual decomposition. If the liquid manures from stables be led by gutters to cisterns, and, when cold, pumped upon muck, it will not decompose one half the quantity as when applied containing the animal warmth. Each horse, ox, or cow, will supply the means of converting one cord of muck per week into manure equal to ordinary barn-yard manure; while the ready pulverulent character of the mass renders such compost much more easily divisible during tillage. Large quantities of muck may be thrown with advantage into the hog-pen; and new quantities should be added as often as any odor can be perceived arising from the surface of the pen. I have used large quantities of muck in these manures, and have found it advantageous to remove and renew the muck of the stables and hogpen every ten days, always placing it under manure sheds, to prevent its exposure to useless currents of air, for evaporation, and to assist in maintaining an equable temperature, to assist its decomposition. When larger quantities of manures are required than can be formed from these means, then new quantities of muck may be decomposed by the process given in the 'Working Farmer,' p. 4, under the head of 'Lime as a Manure.' By use of the lime and salt mixture as there described, any amount of manure may readily be formed from muck.

"Either fresh or salt muck makes a good divisor for night soil, absorbing all the more fluid parts, and at the same time rendering the mass, with the slight addition of two bushels of plaster of Paris to the cord, entirely inodorous.

"Dead animals, if cut into small pieces, (say from one to ten pounds each,) coating slightly with ashes, and then burying them in muck, will convert the whole muck into a most powerful manure. The waste of glue factories, slaughter-houses, &c., may be so treated, and every hundred pounds of animal matter will convert one cord of muck into good manure. The spent ley of the soap-boilers, if thrown upon muck, soon converts it into available manure, and every ten gallons of this spent or salt ley, as it is called, is fully equal in its beneficial effects upon soil, after proper division with muck, to one bushel of ashes.

"Guano, hen and pigeon dung, bones after having been treated with sulphuric acid, and, indeed, all the more powerful classes of manure, should be divided by admixture of muck before being used upon land.

"When muck cannot readily be procured, then surface earth from old woods, pure mud, head-lands, &c., may be similarly used, if of a character not containing sufficient carbonaceous matter and charcoal dust. Some have objected to taking the surface earth from woods, under the impression that they should impoverish the soil; but if they will replace half the value in lime and salt mixture in the place of the surface taken, the woods will generally gain by the exchange.

"When muck composts are used on sandy soils, they are rendered more tenacious, and when mixed with clay, this soil is rendered more valuable. In my next communication, I will treat of my experience in the effects produced by deep subsoil ploughing. The facts stated above, in relation to muck and its compounds, are in strict accordance with the results obtained in my practice, and may be depended upon as correct."

MANURE.

Manure is the great sinew of agriculture, as money is of war; and the making the best of every advantage or opportunity for increasing the quantity of it, is one of the most prominent traits in the character of a *good farmer.*

SALTING STOCK.

A correspondent of the Farmer, some time ago, offered some speculations about salting stock — questioning the utility of the practice, and asking for actual experiment.

The animal system has no power to create any of the elements of flesh, organized tissue, or salutary secretions. But the organs of nutrition and assimilation have wonderful power to modify the chemical constituents of the animal body, into a part of that body, when they are supplied. Healthy, perfect animals cannot be raised or kept unless all the various chemical constituents of bone, meat, fat, &c., are furnished in food or drink, or in the atmosphere they breathe. Combinations of gluten, starch, oil, &c., found in the food of herbivorous animals, supply much of the material for organized tissue and fat, and abundance of carbon for the purposes of respiration. But a variety of mineral substances are equally necessary, to wit: Phosphorus for the formation of nervous tissue, bones, white and yolk of eggs, and milk. It is furnished in the grasses and seeds of plants. Sulphur exists in flesh, eggs, and milk. It is found in most spring and river water, and in some plants with their azotized compounds. Lime is a well-known ingredient in the animal structure. It is equally abundant in the vegetable kingdom and in all hard water. Iron is a "*sine qua non*" in red blood, animal flesh, yolk of eggs, and milk. It is supplied in some water and in many vegetables.

Common salt is no less important in the animal economy. It is contained in flesh, in the egg, in milk, and other fluids. It is a combination of muriatic acid and soda. The first named is essential to the gastric juice, making it a ready solvent of many substances which would otherwise be useless to the purpose of assimilation. Common salt is scarcely found in plants, except such as grow in salt marshes, salt licks, or sea water. This deficiency must be supplied. Instinct and appetite impel wild animals to seek such marshes and licks, where they choose the raw material in the most concentrated form they can find it. Domestication prevents animals from obeying this desire, and renders it our duty and interest to mingle it with their food or treat them regularly with this luxury, as their actions prove they esteem it.

By the advice of some old farmers I have fed my pigs with salt freely and regularly, especially while fattening, for four or five years; and am satisfied that it is of great service in giving permanency to the appetite and solidity to the flesh — besides being well paid for expense and trouble in grateful grunts and smacking chops.

J. H. BEECH, M. D.

Gaines, N. Y., 1849.
— *Genesee Farmer.*

Remarks by Editor N. E. Farmer. — Some persons contend that salt is not necessary for stock; but it seems to us that they do not take a candid view of the subject. Practical knowledge, in tending animals, shows that they naturally require salt. Their taste for it is not perverted, like that of man for alcohol, tobacco, and opium. The young animal craves salt, and partakes of it greedily and with a relish. But the child loathes alcohol, until it is diluted, and made palatable by sweetening, and a love of it is acquired only by habit and the power of fashion.

This natural appetite, with the salutary effect from the free use of salt by animals, and the evidence, from a scientific investigation, that the elements of salt are component parts of animals, and that these ingredients are generally deficient in herbage, are sufficient, in our opinion, to show, that animals should either have a suitable quantity of salt mixed with their food, or they should have constant access to salt, and help themselves as they desire.

NEATNESS IN SCHOOLS.

Those who know enough to be school teachers, know that filthiness is offensive to the best part of people. If a teacher's influence over his scholars tends to make them indifferent about cleanliness, it tends to separate them from the best society, and make them companions of the vile. They know, too, that there is a connection between our external circumstances, and the state and actions of our minds. There are many indecent and injurious things which children, and adults too, will do in a dirty room, which they would not do in a clean one. They know also that habits are rapidly forming while children attend school. If they are accustomed to be neat in their persons and dress, and to have things neat around them when at school, they will be much more likely than they otherwise would be, to give due attention to neatness in future life, and that is a matter of no small importance.

Cleanliness is an important virtue, and one the practice of which is very sure to lead to other virtues. It causes a carefulness about things, which greatly promotes economy. It calls for the doing of some things frequently, and that tends to industry. It causes attention to what one is doing, and what is done near him, and to whatever else may affect him in relation to cleanliness, and thus promotes mental activity.

Let me, then, say to those who expect to teach, Do what you can to promote neatness among your scholars. Your endeavors for it, if wisely made, will be among your best commendations to them and to their parents, and tend to bring you their approbation and aid. They will also be among your best means for preserving good order, and securing attention to study; and thus serve to make your work more easy and pleasant. If I were to go into your school-room, and find it dirty, and evidently through your negligence, (and it would be by your neglect if not swept within twenty-four hours,) I should say to myself, "This teacher is not fit to have the care of children. He either does not know the need of keeping out the dirt, or he does not as well as he knows how." — *Clarion.*

AN AFFECTIONATE GOBBLER.

A friend, who has been very successful in raising poultry, states that a turkey of his recently had a large brood, and then suddenly died, and "made no sign." The old turkey cock, immediately upon her demise, took charge of her young family, conducting them abroad in the daytime, and at night sheltering them under his wings with all the care of a mother. The widowed gentlemen with the red gills is in all respects a pattern of kindness and affection, not often seen among the descendants of the turkey line. — *Lowell Courier.*

We are informed of a still more singular case than this, which has occurred in a neighboring town the present season. The turkey hen had laid the proper complement of eggs, but did not incline to set; therefore Master Gobbler took it into his head to do the setting, which he did, and hatched a fine brood. He attends to them with truly maternal care, and more than maternal ostentation, and gives every promise of a most successful experiment. — *Worcester Spy.*

NOTICES OF PUBLICATIONS.

Transactions of New York State Agricultural Society. — We have received this valuable work from the Secretary, B. P. Johnson, Esq. It contains the doings of the State society, reports of the county societies, various communications from distinguished agriculturists and horticulturists, in different sections of the country, making a neat, beautiful, and large octavo volume of nearly a thousand pages, embellished and illustrated by numerous and excellent engravings. This work contains a fund of the most valuable information; and great credit is due Mr. Johnson for the able and faithful manner in which he has prepared this copious work, which must have required much arduous labor.

Hovey's Magazine of Horticulture. — The August number contains a variety of valuable matter. Six native pears are figured and described. We shall soon have native pears enough, and of such excellence that we can dispense with many of the uncertain foreign kinds. Mr. H. shows that after the high commendations of new strawberries, Hovey's Seedling takes most of the prizes at the horticultural shows.

American Flora. — This monthly for August is embellished with four beautiful, colored engravings. It is a splendid work, replete with the most valuable instruction. New York, Green & Spencer, 67 Bowery. By Dr. A. B. Strong.

Illustrated Natural History. — This work is a monthly, by the same editor and publisher as the foregoing. It is highly interesting and instructive, and beautifully illustrated with various animals and scenery.

Remarks on the Petition for an Act for Incorporating the College of the Holy Cross. — This is a pamphlet of 28 pages, which we have not had time to peruse.

History and Design of the American Institute of Instruction, by Geo. B. Emerson, President of the institution.

Descriptive Catalogue of Fruit and Ornamental Trees, Shrubs, Roses, &c., at Andre Leroy's nurseries, at Angers, Maine and Loire, France.

OUR COUNTRY.

On no country more than our own have the charms of nature been prodigally lavished; her mighty lakes like oceans of liquid silver — her mountains with their bright aërial tints — her valleys teeming with fertility — her tremendous cataracts thundering in their solitude — her boundless plains waving with spontaneous verdure — her broad, deep rivers, rolling in solemn silence to the ocean — her trackless forests, where vegetation puts forth all her magnificence — her skies kindling with the magic of summer clouds and glorious sunshine — no, never need an American look beyond his own country for the sublime and beautiful of natural scenery. — *Irving.*

Pekin at one time was the largest city in the world. London is now the largest, and New York is the largest city in the United States.

MY COUNTRY.

I love my country's pine-clad hills,
Her thousand bright and gushing rills,
  Her sunshine and her storm;
Her rough and rugged rocks, that rear
Their hoary heads high in the air,
  In wild fantastic form.

I love her rivers deep and wide,
And those bright streams that seaward glide,
  To seek the ocean's breast;
Her smiling fields, her fertile vales,
Her shady dells, her pleasant dales,
  Her haunts of peaceful rest.

I love the forest dark and lone,
For there the wild bird's merry tone
  Is heard from morn till night;
And there are lovelier flowers, I ween,
Than e'er in eastern lands were seen,
  In varied colors bright.

Her forest and her valleys fair,
Her flowers that scent the morning air,
  Have all their charms for me;
But more I love my country's name,
Those words that echo deathless fame,
  And sound from sea to sea.

THE OLIO.

A Severe Retort. — George the Second observed a lady whose dress displayed rather the largest portion of her chest. "Madam," said the monarch, "allow me to place my hand upon that soft bosom." "Sire," replied the lady, "give me your hand, and I will put it upon a much softer place." She took his hand, and laid it on his head.

The Law. — An editor down south, who served four days on a jury, says he's so full of law, that it is hard for him to keep from cheating somebody.

Hour of Death. — It will afford sweeter happiness, in the hour of death, to have wiped one tear from the cheek of sorrow, than to have ruled an empire, to have conquered millions, or enslaved the world.

A celebrated wit made one of his happiest jokes when he heard that Bishop, who had been sent to Portsmouth preparatory to transportation for life, had escaped. "Gad, sir," said he, "he must have been an *arch Bishop* to do that; and yet his dislike to the *see* is quite unaccountable."

Like a dog in a wheel, birds in a cage, or squirrels in a chain, ambitious men still climb and climb, with great labor and incessant anxiety, but never reach the top.

TERMS. — The New England Farmer is published every other Saturday, making a neat and handsome volume, at the close of the year, of 416 pages, at $1 a year, or five copies for $4, payable in advance. It may be neatly bound at 18¾ cents, or elegantly bound in muslin, embossed and gilt, at 25 cents a volume. As it is stereotyped, back numbers can be furnished to new subscribers.

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